SECURE LAMP BASE AND SOCKET

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A lamp base and mating socket locking to prevent axial separation. A lamp base has a locking bridge with arms extending between pairs of contact pins spaced a distance from a surface of the lamp base forming a gap. The contact pins and locking bridge extend through an opening in the socket. Upon rotating the lamp base relative to the socket, locking lands extend under the arms of the locking bridge in the gap preventing unintentional axial separation between the lamp base and the socket. In one embodiment, a key notch is formed in one of the arms of the locking bridge and a mating key pin is formed on the lamp base such that the lamp base can fit within the socket only in a single predetermined angular orientation. The locking bridge extending between the contact pins additionally protects the contact pins from being damaged or bent. The present invention is particularly suited to environments susceptible to vibration or movement; for example, in the treatment of wastewater with ultraviolet radiation from gas discharge lamps.